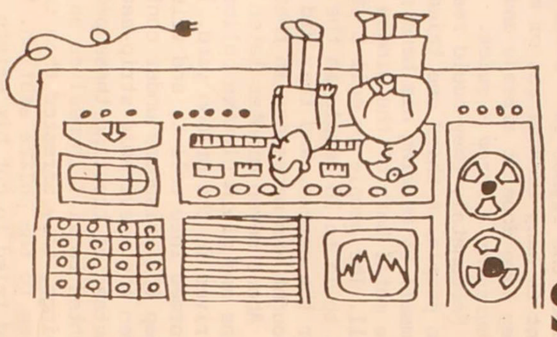
TRUE LIFE TALES FROM STOPPED CITIES



MANCHESTER

People gathered from 9am onwards in Market St in the City Centre outside McDonalds, the fact that there was no set plan to what we would do in the day in no way limited the 70 or so who turned up for the action.

First off, a group of us tried to decorate the Army Recruitment Centre with balloons and leaflets, however a Sergt., who looked like he had muscles on his boots,put a stop to this by grabbing one of us by the neck and making him take it all down. This was about our only disappointment of the day.

During the course of the day we occupied Barclays International Bank and hung red & black flags out of the windows, we chanted and gave out leaflets while we were there and set off alarms on the way out. We also occupied the Board Room at the Stock Exchange where we were insulted by some businessmen. On leaving one lad was arrested and charged with a breach of the peace. This led to a large group of us marching, hand in hand, to the cop shop to find out what had happened to him. After a while a few remained outside the station and the rest went on to do street theatre outside McDonalds. All of this was really effective. We acted out a hunt, a die in, and a Simple Simon Says except it was Simple Maggie says. Amongst other actions, alarms were set off, the pavements were decorated with chalk drawings and slogans, locks glued up, stinkbombs let off. All the furshops in the city were closed for the day as they had been forewarned of our action. All of those present thought the day a great success.

South Manchester @ Group.

York Anarchist Paper

York Anarchists are appealing to anyone who was there who would like to write, draw about their experiences and send it to: Shelf 22, 73 Walmgate, YORK North Yorkshire (do not mention @ group name on envelope). They are especially interested in those arrested telling about their treatment Names will be with-held if desired but a contact/return address would be welcome.

BRISTOL

8 people were leafleting when 8 coppers came up and one said: "I'm arresting you on suspicion of causing criminal damage - come this way". After a search of pockets etc:

1. One was threatened with a Magistrates Order (prison) cos he refused date of birth.

2. One woman (Chinese origin) - born & bred in this country - was given a *Notice of Deportation form!* to frighten her.

3. Asked about their political beliefs, the leaflet being distributed, STC, the local Peace Centre, various meetings - threatened with *Conspiracy to Riot*. Who is the Leader, how did the leaflet come about etc.

4. Held for 8-12 hours"lawyers for the Council for Civil Liberties were all out & not available".

Upon release, when buying food, one of those nicked saw the *Bristol Evening Post* headlines: EIGHT ARRESTED ON PEACE DEMO - ADMIT THEIR GUILT which is a load of bollocks. Local TV said same; attempts at right to reply were futile. All of the eight are innocent!

SOURCE: Cornerstones

Someone we know got nicked for £1000 damage to a Rolls Royce they have to sign on at the cop-shop once a week.

Stop the City was a bloody excellent demo. Ten of us went up, none got done. Arriving at 9-30 we got stuck outside the Royal Exchange for 1½ hours unable to leave during one of the surges.

We got out and found ourselves in the street rampaging along causing havoc. Lunchtime we leafletted and got at a limousine whose bankers were drinking out of "cut glasses" while *their* chauffeur drove on past our abuse and gob.

Nearly got done for standing on top of a GPO electrics box and yelling at a undercover cop who had tomatoes squashed on his camera lens (he ran off, under abuse into the back of a cop van).

Someone we know got nicked for £1000 damage to a Rolls Royce they have to sign on at the cop-shop once a week.

LONDON

Arrived 8.30, went to Stock Exchange, stood around with everyone else until 9.15. Started to cross to and fro very slowly to aggravate police and generally slow down traffic. This tactic seemed to work for about 15 minutes but there was not enough help from people sitting about Stock Exchange. Cops started to arrest people - not very successfully I may say at this point. I intervened when they tried to arrest some woman; spontaneously we surrounded them & they beat a hasty retreat leaving the woman - (the same woman was later nicked for shouting out when the cops cordoned us in the Stock Exchange), I then crossed the street to stop the cops trying to arrest another guy, which they did quite successfully. All through this little skirmish there were chants of "Kill the Bill" and "Nazis!". From that point on it was a pocket full of pennies thrown with great hate at the cops - I hit at least two.

Then met my friends in the Square, whereupon the cops tried to hem us all in; there was no resistance. To this police tactic I started to shout very loudly "Don't be sheep - don't let them hem us in", when one of the cops pointed in my direction and said "I am going to have you"; I replied "Anytime pal". From then on he kept pointing me out to other pigs which meant I had to keep watch on my back.

I thought it was best to make a tactical retreat from the Square - at each exit from the square there were lines of pigs stopping people leaving the Square.

After being rebuffed at one exit we moved over to the next where I started to ask cops who was in charge, they pointed me to the Superintendent who I informed had no right to hold us in this fashion and to my surprise he let us go!

I crossed the street picked up a handful of "Stop the City" leaflets and started handing them out to passing capitalists.

Meanwhile back at the Square there was a surge towards six pigs who did "an Ian McGregor" (laugh - I nearly pissed myself), incidentally, that is when the woman got arrested, (ie. after the cops fell over). From that point on the crowd spilled out of the Square and started heading in all different directions. At this point I joined the ALF (Animal Liberation Front) and headed towards the fur Trade centre shouting numerous chants and waving lots of black flags - there were three arrests at this point. Cops telling us to keep moving - kept turning my back and shouting GET FUCKED very loudly - we then started to move around, some punks puncturing a couple of car tyres as we ended up back near the Square. The pigs tried to stop us going down an alley way. The chant went up for "Runner", which we started to do. In the alley there was a few bank windows which I started throwing coins at, making small holes. We came out of the alley, headed down Fenchurch St, where we came across a very large wooden wheel for transporting wire which we rolled into the street. Once we realised it was going to be easy to move it again we tipped it over onto the road stopping traffic. By this time there was about 125 of us heading down the road. First to get it was the Clydeside bank; we started to move down aiming for Insurance offices where we came across a van putting up scaffolding. Lots of people started to pick up pieces of pipe & bits - we then attacked an Insurance office. We then moved across the road heading towards Lloyds where there was a vintage Rolls Royce with Driver and Securicor van. First we attacked the Rolls, booting lots of dents in it - then the Securicor van,then we moved towards Lloyds - smashed all the windows - cut across the street and attacked another Insurance office. Kept moving towards Barclays, reached Barclays, smashed all the windows and kept moving. At this point I left the ensuing crowd,made my way back into the City. Its only a victory when you don't get jailed and that's what happened to me.

FEEDBACK

CLYDESIDE ANARCHIST

No.1. Spring 1984. 15p. 10pp. Articles include The rule of Law; Processed Leisure; Art & Society. Available from: Box 3, 488 Gt. Western Rd, Glasgow. (include stamp to cover postage)

KNEE DEEP IN SHIT

Special offset issue. A3 folded format. 30p. Articles include local Squatting news; Freemasons in Bradford Council; Cartoons & lots more. Available from: c/o 1 in 12 Club, 127 Thornton Rd, Bradford 1 West Yorkshire.

THE SLAB

Free but donation welcome. 6pp duplicated. South End Anarchist & Libertarian Broadsheet. From: 38 Danescroft, Leigh on Sea, South End.
Address to Kevin with SAE.

ANARCHIST CASSETTES

Monkey & the Dragon have available Great Atlantic Radio Conspiracy Tapes. Amongst a variety of programmes on Sexual politics Health, Anti-nuclear/Environment, Poetry Music there are recordings about aspects on Anarchist education, history etc. They cover Europe and theprice of each TDK D tape is £3.00 (including VAT, box for the tape and P&P) special reduced rate for those who give good reason Tweed Street, High Bentham, Lancaster LA2 7HW ENGLAND.
They also distribute *Communities* a bimonthly magazine from America, *Social Anarchism & Black Rose* both irregular write for details/catalogue.

WESTERN DAILY MESS

Bristol @ paper A3 format with a Thatcher as wanted terrorist poster, available from: *Pe@ce Centre, 1 Picton St, MONTPELIER*

STOP STATE MURDER OF K. OMORI
Picket 12-2pm outside Japanese Embassy, Grosvenor St. Wed-23rd May.

BENEFIT FOR ARGENTINIAN ANARCHO-SYNDICALISTS:
9.00pm at 121 Bookshop
9.00pm at 121 Bookshop, 121 Railton Rd. Music, Refreshments. Wed-23rd May.

SUPPORT THE MINERS Jumble Sale at 121 Bookshop, 121 Railton Rd, London. Sat-26th May at 2.00pm.

ANTI-AUTHORITARIAN NEWS NETWORK

Issue 1. Exchange or S.A.E. A4 folded format. A collage of newsclippings & cartoons with diary of coming events in Toronto, Ontario Canada. Available: c/o Unknown @ co-op, PO Box 915, Station F, Toronto Ontario M4Y-2N9.

IDEAS & ACTION

No. 4 Spring 1984. £1 or $1.50 US. 44pp. Well produced A4 magazine from USA with hilarious graphics/mock ads. Articles include War; Economic Realities; Jewish Anarchist Statement; Letters & more. Available from Box DAM c/o 121 Railton Rd, London SE24. or from PO Box 40400 San Francisco, CA 94140 USA.

ANARCHIST ARCHIVES

Anarchist interested in establishing an Anarchist Archive is looking for material. If you have anything to donate (including ideas) please write to The AA Project, c/o Jerry Kaplan, 174 Lisbon Ave, Buffalo, New York, 14214 USA.

EDINBURGH ANARCHIST GROUP

Presently producing a fortnightly newssheet and working on a quarterly "fanzine" as well as a street stall. Contributions: Box "A" 1st May Bookshop, 43 Candlemakers Row, Edinburgh. *Little by Little* A4 format.

Last Issue : Vol. VII 5F No. 110
Dated 9-4-'84
We missed out one issue in our fortnightly sequence because of Easter, when we hoped the quarterly would appear. Many of our collective were away for the AIT congress, others on different matters... (We haven't given up the struggle!) Next fortnightly will be 6A No. 112, 11-6-'84. The quarterly should be out in two weeks.
New subscribers please note : You haven't been cheated out of an issue- your sub. is for 4 Quarterlies and 22 News Bulletins , not just a 12 month supply.

15247
BF ccc

BLACK FLAG 30p
ANARCHIST FORTNIGHTLY VOL VII 5G No.111
14th May 1984

MINERS STRIKE

3-DAY WEEK?

The Nottinghamshire scabs are repeating history. During the 1926 lockout they split from the national union - ostensibly over tactics, in reality because they had negotiated better conditions and were not prepared to put themselves at risk for the sake of fellow miners in other areas - and formed their own moderate union under Henry Spencer. The Spencerites are at it again. They were helped by the introduction, under Labour, of the new Incentive Schemes in 1977/78. Overnight over fifty years of hard fought struggle to achieve a national basic pay rate was lost. The scheme thus made it easier for management to pit one area against another and to localise disputes. Local productivity schemes meant that one area would be earning more than another. Last year the South Wales miners tried to get national support for a strike to prevent pit closures in their area. They failed, partly as a result of the localised bonus scheme, partly because the NUM only wanted strike action if initiated by the national executive. In Scotland mineworkers have been involved in industrial action for almost the last 12 months. During that time 6 pits were closed down. It took the NUM several months before national action was sanctioned. Even then a much criticised overtime ban was the only solution put forward by the executive. The ban was having no effect whatseover and it was inevitable that sooner or later a national all out strike would have to be called.

With the strike now in its 7th week only (some) Nottinghamshire miners are holding back from all-out strike. They are producing around 200,000 tonnes of coal a week. If this supply were cut off, then domestic supplies for Scotland, the North East and Yorkshire will have run dry in a matter of days, while the power stations reserves will be empty (apart from any imported fuel that gets through the NUS blockade) within a month. But if the Nottinghamshire miners still work on regardless, then the NUM will have to rely on the active support of the power workers themselves.

The power workers support is far more crucial than the support needed from the steel workers. Even selective strike action from power workers would more or less guarantee the start of a 3 day week. The support of the power workers would almost certainly mean that the government would be forced to declare a state of emergency and bring in troops and technicians to strikebreak. So far the governments strategy has been to avoid the use of troops in any strike breaking capacity at all costs. Troop deployment, like the use of the employment legislation, is guaranteed to harden the resolve of strikers and therefore would only be sanctioned as a last resort. It is rumoured, however, that paratroopers were used in a limited capacity against pickets at Dawmill Colliery in Warwickshire, while it is known that the army have supplied barrack facilities for use by police reinforcements at Grantham, Ollerton and Newark.

Railworkers, for their part, have consistently provided secondary support and in many parts of the country the movement of coal by rail has been completely blacked. In Merseyside all rail traffic was brought to a halt one night when two rail workers were sent home for taking part in secondary action. Train services on Merseyside were, as a result, brought to a standstill. Latest news is that the NUM has now called upon the NUR and ASLEF to bring about a national stoppage.

Continued on page 3

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London SE24 (01) 274 6655

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Continued from the front page.

Support for the mineworkers has also come, unsolicited, from workers in other industries. NUPE health workers joined the picket line at the Point of Ayr Colliery in North Wales, despite the area NUM official - a moderate - ordering them to keep out of the dispute. The NUS showed support from the very beginning. Seamen, like the rail workers, have threatened that if the employment laws are used to prevent them from taking secondary action, then they will commence an all out strike. To date that threat seems to have worked.

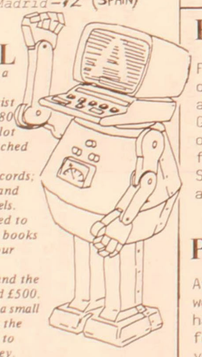
Striking miners, in the meantime, are badly in need of financial support. The SS - if they get it - is next to nothing after savings and the mythical strike pay is taken into account. As well as donations direct to miners and their families, further assistance could be made by trade unionists who work in rent/rate offices or in the electricity and gas board offices. They can show solidarity by holding up payment demands due to be sent to miners. Even better they could 'lose' such demands. As the strike progresses, additional support from other workers and jobless (sabotage actions, etc) will be vital if the miners are to get anywhere.

N.B. A detailed report on the history of the state's strikebreaking activities from the First World War to the present day will be included in the Black Flag Spring Quarterly, due next issue.

CNT-AIT OFFICES EVICTION

The Madrid offices of the National Committee & local Federation of the CNT are under threat of eviction. On rent-strike until the "patria" owed to the CNT (2,000,000,000 pesetas) is returned, armed National Police turned up on 26/4/84 ready for action. But, a Labour Ministry negotiator stalled any confrontation; the Marques a who owns the premises wants rent or the CNT out. Solidarity letters to *6,Calle de Magdalena, Madrid-12* (SPAIN)

COMPUTER APPEAL



A Distribution needs £500 to buy a computer.

We've been distributing Anarchist books and papers since August 1980 we've made Anarchist literature a lot more accessable, but we've now reached our limits.

A computer would store our records; make up our invoices, statements and delivery notes and address our labels. This would give us the time we need to find new shops to sell to, and new books to sell. We'd also like to improve our advertising.

A computer disc drive/printer and the right softwear would cost us around £500. We've already been given £135 and a small amount can be raised from among the publishers, but inevitably we have to look outside for most of this money.

Can you contribute? A donation however small, will be helping a large number of anarchist projects; including Anarchy, Autonomy Press, Black Flag, Bratach Dubh, Cienfuegos, Freedom Press, Freedom, Insurrection, Rebel Press, Refract Publications, and Solidarity. Who knows, you may even need us yourself sometime.

Cheques, cash etc. to A Distribution 84b Whitechapel High Street, London E1. See Anarchist Press to see how the appeal is going.

INDUSTRIAL

TEESIDE & MINERS DISPUTE

Recently the Tees dock workers stopped coal coming in from the USA destined for Teeside Steel works, in solidarity with the miners. Three plants principally & a few others will be affected: Lackenby cargo fleet and, from Brit Steel Corp, the most vital Redcar complex. Lackenby receives molten steel from Redcar as well as the boss plant. If the Redcar complex halts through lack of coal then Lackenby would go over to liquid oxygen & a drop in output would ensue. If the big bertha furnaces at Redcar cool, their lining will crack; this happened during the '81 steel strike. Another plant, Cargo Fleet, is also run on coke but is due to close with redeployment elsewhere. Southbanks clay lane and Hartlepool have no orders to fulfill and a few short-term contracts are all that stand between low wages and lowly dole.

SOURCE: A Steel Worker.

OPERATION POLICEWATCH

The mineworkers have set up their own 'National Recording Centre' to counter that set up by the police. The mineworkers version has been named 'Operation Policewatch', is based at Sheffield and undertakes intelligence gathering on police movements. To date it has amassed many reports sent in of incidents of police violence and intimidation against strikers and their supporters. Selections from the OP file include:

precise details of telephone tapping of NUM offices by the SB and security forces;

details of SB used to infiltrate picket lines and agent provocateurs to provoke arrests (eg, Babbington Colliery and Mansfield).

reports of excessive violence, (eg, the 3 Welsh miners who were snatched from a picket line and roped to railings for three hours).

MINERS BENEFIT

Friday May 25th at Shalom Centre, Strone Rd. London E12. Organised by E. London DAM; details from them c/o Anarchy Magazine, Box A, 84b Whitechapel High Street. E1 7QX

LETTER

The miners can only win if they get much more active support from all sections of the working class.

This is not and will not be forthcoming if the strike continues to centre over the single issue of fighting pit closures. As important as this is, especially in areas like S. Wales where the effects are likely to be devastating.

To gain nationwide working class support, the strike needs to be turned into a strike aimed at bringing the Govt. down. In other words a political general strike. Most people have got it in for this Govt for one reason or another. Peoples anger and resentment is smouldering just under the surface. If the miners can give a strong lead the working class will explode.

Once we've brought down the Govt, the miners will be able to run their industry properly and in societies interests. The same should go for the rest of the economy and our communities. Or could we be in for another Labour government?

As anarchists we must support the miners by joining picket lines and collecting money to finance the flying pickets. We also need to put our views across forcefully to the rest of our class.

P.P. Wales

ANNERSLEY MINERS

Apparently Kodak, which has a factory at Annesley in Nottinghamshire, has been entertaining the boys in blue. The cops use Kodak's access road to park their vehicles so that they can apprehend the Yorkshire and Welsh pickets as they come up the nearby M1 motorway. It is nice to see the police park their vehicles well away from the bushes, always in the open, we wonder why?

Meanwhile at Annesley Colliery most locals are on the picket line, families at 4'o'clock in the morning. An even split over whether to work or not has split some areas. Pits out in the area include Annesley; Newstead; Rentinch. Police fly about during the night, on two occasions Armaguard - the security people - with Police escorts have been seen, perhaps moving Coal Board cash.

@-Syndicalist

EASTLEIGH AIRPORT STRIKE

Fireworkers at Eastleigh Airport came out on strike & thanks to solidarity action of other workers at Jersey & Guernsey airports forced the Airport's owner Summers to agree to their demands for the right to belong to a union. Summers smashed such a strike 15 years ago but this time got walked over.

SOURCE: Verbal Assault

LIVERPOOL DIRECT ACTION GROUP

Meets in the County Pub (in the city near TGWU building) at 7.30pm Sundays. Contact c/o 81 Lark Lane, Auigburth, Liverpool 15.

PHILLIPS RUBBER DISPUTE

At time of writing (2nd May) the sacked workers at Phillips Rubber in Manchester have been picketing their former factory for 19 weeks, since the beginning of the year. Background to the dispute is that the 70 or so people who worked there were offered a derisory wage increase just before Xmas which would have taken their basic wage to the grand sum of £48 a week (before tax). This they naturally rejected, despite threats by the owner Rowlands to sack them - threats he has issued them the last 12 years. During the time they've been out there have been two occupations of the place, and much sabotage and graffiti. Aprrox 30 scabs are employed at the moment, most leave after a fortnight - the hassle from the pickets, shitty conditions & bad rates of pay being enough to frighten off any but the most determined. The sacked workers have given up hope that they'll get their jobs back at decent rates of pay - now they want to close the place down and make Rowlands broke by suing for £2000 redundancy money each. Picketing is continued through out the week with mass pickets each Monday - any support is welcome. The address is: *Phillips Rubber Ltd. Dantzig Street, Manchester M4*

SOURCE: Liverpool Direct Action Group.

The Banned Wagon

At the General Election the darling of the Left, Wedgie Benn, was defeated at Bristol by a Mr Sayeed on the far out Right. Mr Sayeed has taken some time to do anything - it's a problem building up a reputation as a trouble-shooter when you're a natural sycophant - but on 5th April he tabled a motion to ban unwelcome books. The banning of books is dear to the hearts of the Right but doesn't yet happen within the Law as we know it (a Video control Law is being sized up to not just control nasties but political material too!). So he called for the banning of books containing information on the making of bombs, which he said was on sale at extremist (left & right wing) bookshops and included books that are published by that notoriously subversive organisation, the US Govt. (released under the freedom of information legislation) - it being implied that that's what it would come to here if some people had their way regarding less secret government.

Amidst this plethora of violent literature which the Govt. ought to 'ban' was - complained Mr Sayeed with a rising crescendo of indignation:

"One such pamphlet was produced in Britain in 1980 by Stuart Christie, a self-confessed anarchist, called Towards a Citizens Militia. This contained advice on weapons and explosives, and although referred to the Director of Public Prosecutions, was not banned."

The invocation of that 'self-confessed anarchist' was too much for 150 members of 'all parties' who hastened to sign the motion, amongst them - guess who? - that self-confessed arch-Leftie Tony Wedgewood Benn.

Is 'Towards a Citizens Militia' that bad? Or is it just that it is hard for authoritarians to swallow that there is an alternative to the authoritarian excuse of "defence"?

Carrying on the same story but - strangely enough - dealing only with the right wing terrorists (who are not really seriously considered by the Govt. as they are on their side) the *News of the World* dealt with Motor Books, in St Martin's Court, London and nearby *Soldier of Fortune*, in Villiers Street, who sell such books as guides to explosive devices, kidnapping, making of napalm, etc.

On the radio a German professor explained that as these books were sold together with material from the British Movement and other fascist organisations, they were potentially dangerous. He then went on to make the fantastic point that a device used by the miners' pickets could have been garnered from these books; meantime Liberal MP David Alton linked them with the Liverpool riots the other year!

By using the weasel word "terrorist" political tricksters are able to confuse issues. They can tar anarchists or miners with the brush of fascists for people who "can't tell a waltz from a tango".

It's an Ill Wind

Just a final note on poor Sarah Tisdall, put in prison for leaking a Government document that should have been public knowledge to the *Guardian* newspaper. Her parents, both doctors, retained John Mathew (who prosecuted in the Angry Brigade case) now normally retired and not particularly noted for his liberal sympathies, possibly in the old belief that in a case demanding progressive sympathy it's best to get the most reactionary old brief you can find to keep the prosecution from having them. It is rumoured that it must have set them back £10,000 - and Sarah still went to prison. Mr Mathew can now retire finally, and if he does so, keep the money tax free as a tribute from a grateful State.



Police Droppings

Britain is to hold its first International Police Conference at the Beach Ballroom in Aberdeen. Over a hundred delegates and their wives are to attend with an invitation to South Africa...

Meanwhile, a "Neighbourhood Watch" programme running in Moor Park USA is to be implemented in the London area. The scheme was imported from Florida by Philip Poulton, a retired Director of London's Savoy Group after he had £5000 worth of silverware & paintings stolen from his Moor Park home (some people have it rough!)...Under the guise of bringing the community & cops together, the scheme encourages citizens to inform on others for the Thought-police. (You too can be a cop).

MI5 "for the purpose of safeguarding national security" are getting a big new computer and are advertising for staff in various computer magazines. The last 10 years of building up dossiers on individuals will no doubt go on to include those getting the jobs on the ICL made large processors at 26-28 Mount Row in London's Mayfair. The new Data Protection Bill allows for the transfer of information from other Government computers onto those at MI5 and vice versa. Clause 25 of the Bill exempts the Govt from registering MI5's computers thus preventing people from enquiring on files that *may* be kept on them.

PC Plod

Bullshit Detector

In the book 'Towards A Citizens Militia - Alternatives To NATO and the Warsaw Pact', on the back cover it's told how after the three o'clock raids on dissidents there will be a report on the BBC to tell us everything's OK. This happened in a small way on April 4. The police closed down the A339 from Newbury to Basingstoke to evict the Greenham women.

The BBC Today programme gave out the announcement that it was due to an 'accident'. What next? 'Railton Road is closing this morning due to overturning'? You'd all be half way up the M1 before the truth were known.

Brian Redhead is the main reporter on the Today show. He's just won an award for being a good boy. Some readers might have their own idea of an award for him. Bullshit is illegal to send through the post but it's alright to deliver it by car or wheelbarrow to the Radio 4 studio and give it to him as a present. Does anyone know a farmer who keeps bulls? Shall we have a collection? Or has someone else got a better idea?

@ Listener.

Urban Centre

The Leeds URC (formerly the Rates Office) was occupied and evicted within a week.

SUNDAY 1 April: about 30 people moved in and secured the building, posted legal warnings, fixed up water leaks in the 5 floor complex. Letters were sent out to local community/action groups, 120 in all.

MONDAY 2 April: More tidying & repairs, the Gasboard connected us up (despite 2 cops interference!). Leaflets & posters produced. *Radio Leeds* did an interview Council officials came to tell us to get out, we told them we would stay as members of the public in a public building!

TUESDAY 3 April: Posters and banners put up, leaflets distributed, the public were invited to visit. A lot of support; we were donated a cooker. *Yorkshire Evening Post* came around for an interview, Press & Council were notified by hand-delivered letters; Council arrived with a Court Summons for Thursday! Women's Aid & TOWCAS wanted space, more groups expressed interest too. The Summons was served under ORDER 24 so we had no notice.

WEDNESDAY 4th: *Radio Leeds, YEP, Radio Aire, LOP & YTV* media came around and we got some coverage. We started to organise the "eviction carnival"; local groups were telephoned, all supported it, but few were able to attend. We had very little confidence in delaying the eviction order so we prepared to resist peacefully. All the exits were secured and 50 windows on the first floor boarded up. We had debated moving to another building but decided to try and hold the URC because it was the largest, most useful building in Leeds.

THURSDAY 5th: The Court is next door, the Town Hall next door but one and the Police station opposite. At 10.25 we appeared only to find the Council had gone behind our backs and held the Court at 10.20! Previously people who had enquired when the Court case was on were told the details were not ready. We protested and had the Court reconvened but to no avail. The Judge, Registrar Walker, refused us time to see a solicitor to make a defence & after the order was granted the Council refused us time to move out. The eviction carnival began at about 11am, we have it on video as it was great fun! About 40 people inside and 100 outside as well as many office workers came out to watch. Reels & reels of white and yellow ticker tape were thrown out of the windows, covering the building, nearby buildings trees and lamp posts. Passing traffic caught it, taking it down the street. People in the building banged drums and dustbin lids; the papers actually reported this as a pop band! The BBC were on strike and we suspect that YTV were told not to come. Still it brightened up a grey area of town for about six hours; there were no arrests or threat of them. We cleaned up inside and out, peacefully left the building rather than face the coming violent eviction. Entrances were barricaded to slow down the bailiffs.

FRIDAY 6th: A 20 strong eviction force turned up to find the building empty and immediately the entrances were bricked up. We later on managed to pull one of them down and sprayed *"you brick it up-we'll knock it down!"* on the door.

SATURDAY 7th: We had a squat gig in another empty building and we are now planning a novel protest march shortly.

The Bradford Squat For Life closed/was evicted about 3 weeks after its occupation; details still awaited.

Leeds Council's big propaganda campaign, *"Do you really want to be under anyone's thumb"?* has been dropped due to an amendment to the Rate-Capping Bill which implies that good Councils (which don't overspend) can keep their powers. The local @s did a spoof leaflet about this.

COLLECTIVISE THE MINES

The steel union executive has swallowed whole the lie that closures can be instigated unilaterally without recourse to the needs of those who will be most affected. Bill Sirs' withdrawal of active support for the miners, together with the continued obstinacy of the Nottinghamshire scabs, means that the NUM may have to seek an alternative strategy to win through. Imports are still getting through, despite the seamens blockade and support from the dockers. For the moment time is on McGregors side, at least until the steel workers disown their official union policy or until the power workers are persuaded to come out too. There is still a long up-hill battle ahead and there is still a possibility of intervention from the troops if the miners get the support they so badly need.

Thatchers policy has been to rely on dissension within the miners own ranks to break down morale. Also the threat of closure of steel works to crush solidarity from the steel workers. The irony is that the steel workers, like the power workers, are immune from prosecution (BSC and the CEGB both have commercial contracts with the NCB, with the latter as supplier) under the 1980 Employment Act: any secondary action they decide to undertake is actually lawful. The threat to close down steel works, made un-productive by the shortage of coal supplies, could be a bluff, but further closures in the steel industry may well be on the cards and the miners strike may be just the excuse BSC and the government are looking for to commence more cutbacks.

The mineworkers union is not as strong as it was, say, 60 years ago when industry and domestic consumption relied on a far larger labour intensive industry to keep things going. Today, with nuclear power and North Sea oil, the mineworkers have to be more tactical in their choice of industrial action. Now more than ever are they dependant on the support of workers in other industries. When that support is lost then other, more radical, measures are necessary. Blockading the highways by the mineworkers in retalliation of the police blockade was a new tactic in this country that took the authorities by surprise. Sabotage actions, which are by no means new and of which there is a long and varied tradition amongst workers and jobless in all industries, have been reported throughout the dispute. In Cresswell, for example, a metal bar was placed across an electrified rail line, the line short-circuited and coal trains were delayed. In Cannock NCB vehicles were sabotaged at a road transport depot. In Stoke-on-Trent a weighbridge was sabotaged at one pit and a winding belt cut at another; at the nearby Trentham Workshops a coach taking scabs to work was attacked and windows were smashed with crowbars.

Up and down the country people are resorting to direct action to express their frustration and anger at the way things are going. Merseyside is no exception. Recently things have come to a head after a series of sabotage actions and interventions, culminating in the use of physical violence on a leading local Liberal Party councillor. Sir Trevor Jones was set upon by a gang of youths; he was stoned, clubbed and called a fascist. A few days later Liverpool's deputy council leader was next in line for abuse: Derek Hatton found himself portrayed in a leaflet, distributed around the city, as a 'fascist militant'. Since then Hatton has been forced to seek a minder.

The ten days prior to the attack on Jones witnessed a series of offensive actions by local people. On MArch 30 a fleet of buses was stranded in their depot after their ignition keys had been stolen and a bus had been deliberately crashed into the depot gates. Apparently the depot workers had refused to take part in a local day of (industrial) action. Also shifting machinery was sabotaged, engines damaged and diesel fuel contaminated at the dockland premises of Banbury Ltd, Birkenhead, not long after the building had been beseiged by flying pickets. There were other, similar, incidents reported.

Source: ASDNN (Liverpool).

But if in the end offensive actions don't succeed in tipping the scales and if the mineworkers gradually become isolated from wider solidarity and support, then government and management - who supposedly have time on their side - can only be effectively challenged by a complete rejection of all negotiations and the forcible takeover of the coal industry by the workers (and communities) who do the producing.

The main issue in the dispute - the closure of pits and the implementation of cutbacks - could certainly be reconciled to the mineworkers advantage if a policy of nationalisation were to be replaced with one of collectivisation. Many mines form the economic heart and soul of whole communities. When the pit dies, the community dies. Overnight most of a township experiences unemployment. Others go to the wayside too as the community loses its spending power. It is in the interests of the community, therefore, to make sure that the pit stays open whatever anyone in the NCB or Whitehall says. Collectivisation is not the same as forming a cooperative, which has to compete with cheap imports, etc. Collectivisation means that the community takes over the mines completely. They are expropriated and reorganised, with production geared to need rather than profit only.

The occupation and takeover of the mines by mineworkers and the mineworking communities as a whole would be the first step in permanently preventing any further closures from taking place. The bosses and the government should, of course, be excluded from having any say in the matter. If a decision to collectivise is taken then those involved may as well go on and get rid of management too. Let them help in production work if they wish; alternatively a rotational duty scheme could be worked out. Also there is no reason why collectivisation should be restricted to those mines in danger of closure. The whole industry could be collectivised, with each pit under the control of the local mineworking/community syndicates. If a few, such as the Nottinghamshire, miners wish to stay with their bosses, let them. That's their choice.

Of course the government or the NCB are not going to let collectivisation happen just like that. For them collectivising the mines will be a revolutionary act. For this reason they will use everything in their power - police, troops, imprisonment, etc - to prevent it. With the escalation of force, whole communities will need to act in solidarity to defend their interests. The local authorities - whatever political pursuasion - will only settle for compromise solutions, while the TUC leaders will intervene, as they have always done, only so as to keep things as they are. In the end collectivisation, if it is to succeed, will need to be supported throughout most of the industry and with the full cooperation of the communities involved.

Except where the quality of life is to be improved for all, job-losses can never be justified. It is a con-trick to suggest that cut-backs and job-losses can be enforced anywhere, anytime, at the drop of a hat - providing, of course, that there is the right economic excuse at hand to back up the decision. It is deception because it is never government or employers who provide jobs and resources for work, but workers who provide their labour and who enable bosses and the state to exploit them. The mines, the steel works, the docks...they are not the property of anyone, nor do they belong to the state to be 'managed' on our behalf. The decision as to whether an industry should progress or cut back or how that industry is organised and how its resources are distributed is the sole concern of those who make that industry work and not the parasites who leach off their toil.

T.H.

LATEST NEWS: As we go to press, there are reports that troops are being used on picket lines to gain policing experence in readiness for strike-breaking activity should a state of emergency be declared.

On two seperate occasions army personnel have been spotted outside collieries in police uniforms by relatives (a father and a brother) who work in the mines. One of the soldiers had been stationed in N.I.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS INTERNATIONAL

NEWS FROM GREECE

Panaijiotis Papadopolous, also known by the pseudonym 'Cain the Criminal', a well-known Athens anarchist, now faces prosecution for the following:
1. For a leaflet which protests at the "suicides" of conscripted soldiers, and protests at the imprisonment of Kyriakos Miras, Photis Danatos and G. Longovittis for their activities against state oppression and police violence in March '82.
2. For a leaflet urging solidarity with Photis Danatos who was then on hunger strike in prison after being jailed for the petrol bombing of a bank in Athens. This leaflet was not even written by Papadopolous.
3. For 3 posters and 2 leaflets. The leaflets and two of the three posters were nothing to do with Papadopolous. He only wrote one of the posters which invited people to a meeting in the centre of Athens.

He is being charged under the article 181 of the criminal code for 'grossly insulting the authorities' and 'slanderous defamation'. Also Papadopolous is waiting for a case to come up at the Court of appeal for a poster 'slandering' the Drug Squad (the biggest Heroin pushers in Greece), advertising a demonstration in December '82. Another case for a poster for a New Years night rally outside Korydallou Prison in '81/'82.

The socialist state is trying to turn Panayiotis Papadopolous into some sort of "Leader" of the autonomous/anarchist movement and is trying to pin him down for all the'insulting' posters and leaflets which tell the truth. He isn't a leader of anything, he's just another comrade fighting the State.

A committee to Oppose State Violence And the Mechanisms of Suppression by the Ruling Class has been formed in Athens. Activities so far have concentrated on getting publicity in the anarchist and anti-authoritarian press, petitions & meetings. We are asked to show our solidarity; as always the Greek socialist State hates poor publicity. So get with those pens, or start petitions.

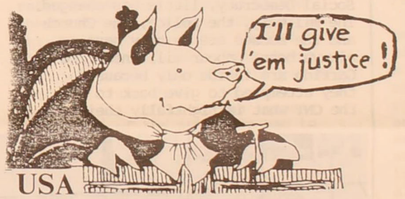
Panayiotis Papadopolous, also editor of the autonomous newspaper *'O Spastis' (The Breaker)* and the 'Committee' can be contacted at: The Breaker Newspaper, Emmanouilidou 6, 17564 P. Faliro, Athens GREECE.

On the 17th anniversary of the Fascist coup d'etat which established the 1967 -74 military Junta in Greece, the "Socialist" govt. announced 2 more measures towards democratisation. One was the burning of police files which have seperated Greeks into 'good & loyal citizens' & 'anarcho-communists' since the end of WW2, & the introduction into Parliament of a Law preventing torture & punishing torturers.

These were welcomed by Greek public opinion but are they mere empty promises? How will the burning of a few police archives, indicating the ideas of the State's political opponents, affect Police surveillance & control of everyday life? The 12,000,000 police files (the Greek population is less than 9,000,000) 'inherited' from the Junta can, due to computerisation, easily be implanted into a Police computer. Ban all torture? Yet Greek Police are abroad learning the latest inquisitorial measures. Obviously empty declarations & Laws officially banned cannot prevent beatings when the State's judiciary clearly has no intention of taking them seriously.

Police spying & violence will always remain the health of every State.

SOURCE: VGR Initiative Athens, GREECE.



USA

A North Carolina jury acquitted members of the KKK and the American Nazi Party of killing members of an offbeat communist party (Mao or Trotsky type) at a demo. They were seen on TV shooting into the crowd, killing five and wounding seven. Six of the hooded monsters were cleared of murder but lawyers hauled them back on a charge of violating civil rights. The inevitable (North Carolina poor white)decision : not guilty.

SPAIN

Over 20,000 Postal Workers are to face imminent unemployment if the governments rationsalisation plans are to go ahead. The 20,000 are all contract workers, not yet established as permanent staff and therefore having no legal recourse to unfair dismissal or any entitlement to financial compensation. In Madrid there are plans by CNT militants to organise selective strike action and other measures by workers employed by the Post Office to fight the threatened job losses. The rationalisation programme incorporates the privatisation of part of the postal service. Unlike Britain the Spanish authorities have no firm plans yet to sell off the Telecommunication division. The CNT hope that postal workers in other countries who are facing similar cut-backs will act in solidarity.

Source: CNT, Madrid.

BOLIVIA

'Stop the City', Bolivian style, resulting in the financial heart of La Paz being brought to a near complete halt for 72 hours, took place. A general strike was called and the capitals business, government and banking activity ground to a standstill. There was some scab labour helping to maintain bus and taxi services, but the strike was almost 100% sucessful on the country's railways and airlines. Threatened 600% prices rises and a 75% devaluation of the currency by President Suazo's IMF dependent government brought on the strike. The unions took over essential services and made sure that there was sufficient fuel, electricity, medical services, etc to go around.

The COB - the Bolivian Workers Federation - has demanded that the government renege on IMF debts and that the country's gold reserves be used to purchase much needed food, medical equipment and industrial and agricultural machinery.

UP AGAINST THE WALL

It happens in all Belgian prisons - the small hints of daily repression about which the papers never write. There are other incidents also ignored by the media, which provoke, as in the case of the prison of Tournai, the alignment side by side of screws and inmates.

Facts: March 29 at 4.45pm precisely, a squadron of gendarmes with portable radio and transceivers (members of the BSR) invaded Tournai prison. Imagine a gang of 137 police in uniform armed to the teeth, accompanied by dogs, not to mention the massive number surrounding the jail buildings, who lined the guards and prisoners up against the walls to search them.

The cops must've been tipped off. They were looking for drugs. The prisoners, all handcuffed, were thrown out of their cells. Those who offered verbal resistance were beaten, the police used dogs who lunged at the smallest gesture to intimidate. The dog handlers from the BSR were enraged to see several prisoners throw pepper and chilli at the dogs.

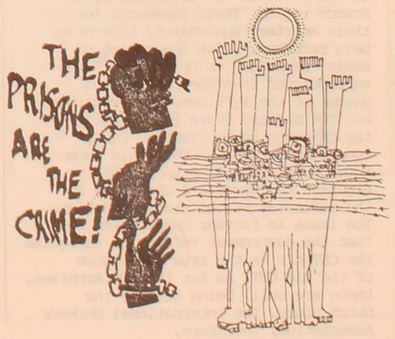
These events resulted in six injured prisoners. Better, 3 cops were injured and the chief screw got a wine bottle in the face. Result of operation: seizure of heroin, cocaine, dope and methadone; also weapons - knives, razors, hammers; false papers and black money.

This police ball went on for 5 hours up until 9pm. After, questions posed to guards by journalists were avoided and if they did let any information slip, it was to be termed 'false' by prison authorities.

Once again it becomes obvious that the screws were accomplices in this farce. As a proof, during this operation, the screws found themselves up against the wall and some were searched. According to our sources, it seems that such an important operation could only be ordered by the District Attorney of Tournai. Some inmates are wondering if the purpose of such an operation is to increase the tensions in the jail, to provoke riots and thus justify more repression. Twenty-four hours after the raid the governor was asking for a delegation of prisoners to discuss the operation and in doing so it seems he wanted to convey the impression of not having prior information of the raid.

This is, of course, not an isolated incident and of course no-one is claiming responsibility. We hope to hear of any repercussions.

Translated from French by J & I



XVII IWA CONGRESS

The 17th Congress of the International Workers Association took place in Spain on April 19-22. The Congress was held in a large, purpose built, conference hall near the centre of Madrid. Outside the black and red flag fluttered high alongside a banner proclaiming the 17th Congress of the AIT-IWA (1st International). The Congress included an exhibition of anarchist-syndicalist publications and posters contributed from many of the Sections. The British section showed DAM material as well as copies of Black Flag and Anarchy.

Around 150 delegates and official observers attended. It was not an open congress for anyone to attend but a business occasion providing the opportunity for sections to meet, discuss ideas, exchange news, etc. Representatives from the Press were excluded from Congress proceedings, instead a Press Conference was scheduled to take place near the end of the four day event. The Congress proceedings were videotaped and copies of the tape will in due course be made available to Section secretariats.

Delegations attending included Japan-AIT, Spain (CNT), France (CNTF), Argentina (FORA), Venezuela (FORVA), USA (LWG), W. Germany (FAU), Bulgaria-AIT in exile, CNT in exile, Denmark (ASO), Norway (NSF), Sweden (ASF), Italy (USI), and Britain (DAM). The Direct Action Movement delegation included several delegates and observers, some of whom were from the Black Flag and Anarchy collectives. Some sections of the IWA-AIT are small and are only able to function as propaganda organisations. Others, such as the CNT (Spain), CNTF (France) and Japan-AIT, operate as fully operational unions. The largest section of the IWA-AIT is, of course, the CNT-Spain.

In due course Congress minutes and proceedings will be made available to sections and we hope to comment upon these at a later date. The next issue of Direct Action, the bulletin of the DAM, will presumably contain a full report on the congress. In the meantime, though, some points that were raised at Congress are briefly outlined below.

1. Patrimony and Archives claim.
The IWA is to present a demand to the Spanish Government for the return of £10m patrimony (union funds, CNT property, printing presses, etc) stolen at the close of the Civil War by the Franco regime. These resources (or their monetary equivalent) have never been returned. Since the coming of social democracy to Spain many funds expropriated from the parties and unions of the left have been returned, but the Spanish State fears that if the CNT were to be likewise fully compensated then the CNT would once more be in a position to be able to organise and present a challenge to the reformism of the state socialists. The issue is further complicated in that the government refuses to recognise the CNT-AIT as the true successors of the old CNT. As for the CNT Archives, these are still being held by the Dutch State. The International Workers Association, therefore, is to demand that they be returned forthwith and that in future they be held by the CNT (Spain) for access by all IWA sections. It was stressed that with both claims (the Patrimony and the Archives) much support was needed from anarchist groups worldwide. Comrades are urged to write to both governments in support of the IWA demands.

2. CNT Prisoners Amnesty.
Many CNT prisoners are inside for taking part in robberies in order to re-expropriate CNT confiscated funds. Some are in for life. One such prisoner, Fidel Manrique Garrido, has written to Black Flag previously about the campaign to secure an amnesty for all CNT prisoners. We went to see Fidel in Segovia Prison. He was well and gave us a message to be read out at the Congress. His statement, issued on behalf of the prisoners of Segovia, requested that all sections of the IWA help out as much as possible in the amnesty campaign. CNT activists are imprisoned because of their uncompromising stand against capitalism and statism. In Franco's day they were imprisoned in their hundreds as members of an outlawed labour union. Under the 'socialism' of Social Democracy, little has changed. The military, the police, the Church and the bosses are as they have always been. Labour militants like Garrido are inside only because they attempted to give back to the CNT what is rightfully theirs.



Comrades everywhere are urgently asked to do what they can to secure the release of CNT prisoners. Write letters, organise pickets, send donations to the CNT Prisoners Fund, get your union interested, do whatever you can to put pressure on the Spanish government.

3. Omori Appeal.
Delgates from the Japanese section of the IWA reminded other sections about the Japanese anarchist, K. Omori, currently on death row after being convicted on dubious evidence of bombing a government building (see previous News Bulletins for details). The delates thanked comrades who had shown solidarity, but pointed out that there was still a long way to go before the legal process is completely exhausted. They also mentioned that the Japanese authorities had been surprised and taken aback by the degree of international support shown and that further pressure is essential if Omori is to get a retrial.

4. Aid for IWA Sections.
At least one IWA section was unable to send a delegation to the Congress because of lack of funds. Portugal sent no delegates for this reason. The delegate for the Argentinian section also emphasised that funds were badly needed by South American comrades. An appeal was made to all the IWA sections to help out as much as possible those sections who were obviously in a worse economic situation. Printing equipment was badly needed and funds to help out in this respect should be sent direct to known groups. Last year the DAM and Black Flag jointly launched an appeal to pay for an offset litho for anarchist-syndicalist comrades in Brazil. That fund is still open and we appeal to all readers to see what they can raise to help out.

5. International Solidarity.
When the attempted coup d'etat took place in Spain in 1981 only the FAU (Germany) and the Italian Anarchist Federation (FAI) rang the IWA offices to see what could be done. The situation was serious and it was remiss of comrades in many countries not to have moved faster to offer support. The IWA Secreatriat levelled this criticism, which was accepted by Congress. It was emphasised that in such times of crisis, then more than ever, is solidarity action needed. The bulk of the Congress proceedings was concerned with working out the fine details of how the anarchist-syndicalist international could organise more effectively to fight for a better way of life. Over the four days there was much debate and counter-debate. Many of us made many new friends and contacts. By the time the Congress had drawn to an end we had all succeeded in consolidating stronger ties. We realised that by ourselves we can do little, when pitted against the combined forces of State and Capital. Our strength lies in solidarity And in a committment to organised resistance. As one observer, whose father led the FAI battalion in the assault on Valencia in 1937, later said after the Congress was over, 'Years ago anarchists were prepared to die for their beliefs.' This time, hopefully, it will be the turn of the bosses and the powerful to die for what they believe in.

Long live the anarchist international!
Long live the IWA!

INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY

Doncaster miners while on a speaking tour in Germany spoke at a Mayday meeting in Cologne, which was organised by the FAU (the German section of the International Workers Association, sister-group of the DAM). The night previous, the German comrades collected £200 for the miners strike fund.

The miners are planning to have a speaking tour in Spain, where hopefully they will be able to visit the CNT.

SOURCE: FAU/DAM

GERMANY

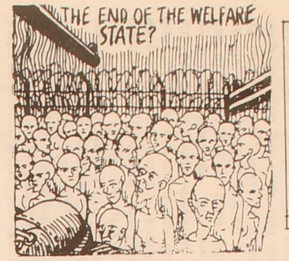
AUGUSTA PLATZ IN MARCH 1984

(Augusta Platz is the name of a prison for foreign people who are awaiting deportation)

Only three months ago six people died in their prison cells - they had burned themselves to death. The media were very quiet about it, after they had their sensation for a few days - but nothing had changed for the prisoners. From the end of January to the beginning of March, thirteen people tried to commit suicide, and that's only the official figure. So we could say that it is only an everyday situation. Some prisoners tell about three other prisoners who have attempted suicide: *It is 12 o'clock at midnight, and the lights just went off. We all are still awake ...Three minutes after midnight we hear a few screams: quick, quick - switch the lights on - a few people want to hang themselves, or maybe they have done it already and scream - hurry up - screw - quick.*

Fortunately they could rescue only two people. A third one tried to kill himself by banging his head against the metal bars of the window in his cell. The people in cell C (there are up to 15 to 20 people in the cell) call for the screws, and they did what they thought was necessary in that situation!?

About seven minutes later cop vans and plain clothes police in cars arrived in the prison yard. The cops stormed into cell C, and tried 'to keep the prisoners under control'. Then the inevitable strip-searches. Instead of treating these people who wanted to kill themselves as human beings, they arrested them and brought them to the police station. One of them had tried to cut his wrists just a few weeks ago, and had to get psychiatric treatment for a week in one of the prison hospitals. He was back in the cell for three days, and didn't find any other solution for his problems than to try to kill himself again.



They warned us not to show any solidarity with other prisoners, otherwise it would get a lot worse for us.

We stood there - panicking - while the pigs finished us off with their sneering laughter. Sometimes we feel envy towards animals, because they get treated better than we as human beings!!

Two people tried to kill themselves in March, but they wouldn't even let them be transferred to a hospital for a treatment. They are still alive; they probably thought: 'so what'!

The cops and screws don't like disturbances during the night at all. So it happened that they cut off two prisoners who had tried to hang themselves just to beat the shit out of them afterwards.

In order to stop more 'embarrassing' suicides the Berlin government developed the strategy to fill the prisoners up with drugs to keep them calm. Valium in different strengths, mandril, mandrax, axharaton, nambratin f and other products of the pharmaceutical industry are what they get every day, just like the bad food they have to eat. These drugs make you really lethargic. People are forced to take them 'voluntarily' often in too large doses. One of the prisoners had to take 6 valium (10) daily over a period of a few days. I think it is hardly possible to calm somebody down more.

The people who take the drugs 'voluntarily' are very often ex-junkies. But if some of the prisoners are ill it is very difficult to get any sort of treatment or pills apart from valium. If you want to see a doctor, you have to be almost dead. The prisoners describe their situation as follows: *The medical experts wish to eradicate the prisoner's desire for freedom by keeping them doped up.*

But in spite of all their generosity to distribute as many drugs as possible, they are not very successful. A lot of us are seriously ill, but if you do not actually collapse, nobody will notice...on the 16th February of this year somebody who had hepatitis passed out and had to be taken to hospital.

The prisoners end their report with an urgent appeal: *The prisoners see you free people as strong and us as weak. We appeal to you from your strength to help us and give us the chance to live, even after having survived the six dead victims in December. We appeal too, to the German democracy and for humanitarian reasons to give us our freedom. We want to show you that we are able to obey the law, if we have to.!*

The prisoners from Augusta Platz know best that an appeal will be without any success. They are the ones who are the most vulnerable when confronted with the political tactics of the government against any foreigners. With these lethal methods in the prisons, they want to scare away foreigners who want to come to Germany, and drive away those who already live here. A new way of exterminating people linked with the old German tradition of eradicating minorities.

Translated from German by N.

ONWARD THE 35-HOUR WEEK

Just over 80 per cent of union members in the key industrial region of Baden-Wurttemberg - where much of the country's car and electrical industry is located, voted on Friday to pursue demands for an immediate introduction of a 35-hour working week with strikes.

TED KNIGHT UPTIGHT

In its quest for political power, the "Labour" Party will use any issue it feels safe enough about handling. In the past they have used various working class struggles, like the health workers, print workers, currently it is the miners turn. In an opportunist manner, not because they would treat the present crisis in the coal mining industry any differently than the Tory Govt. is presently doing, but simply to gain, once again the reins of political control in this country. But it is not only industrial disputes which they try to latch onto. The other 'issues' which the "labour" party uses hypocritically are, anti-militarism, unemployment, homelessness, feminism, racism and more.

On Saturday April 29th and event billed as "Alternative Britain", took place at Friends House Meetingplace in Euston Road London.

The talk was supposed to be a discussion on a direction "towards a new social order". Chairing the meeting was none other than that famous pro-WRP Trot Ted "Red" Knight.

As we all know it was Ted Knight who planned with the Brixton Police how best to evict the 25 squatting anarchists who lived in Effra Parade Brixton (see last issue of Flag).

Not only that but he used the cops to dislodge social workers who had been occupying childrens homes when on strike a few months ago.

If the so-called alternative communities with their tarot cards, crystal balls, water diviners & gurus have reached bankruptcy, then it was clearly shown with their associations with Ted Knight, Tony Benn & the WRP.

Bankrupt politicians and bankrupt "alternatives", were shaken out of their lethargy by the intervention of about fifty anarchists all of whom had been involved in the Effra Parade "Party", in March/early April. There was lots of anger directed at Knight, but due to his own bloody arrogance he refused to leave the chair.

After two hours the bold Ted and his WRP buddies called in cops to get people ejected.

Once again the nature of the "labour" party was shown up for what it really is part and parcel of the State that anarchists must destroy before it destroy us all.

Effr@ P@r@der.

ANOTHER 'CLAIM'

A bomb exploded at London's Heathrow, readily identifiable by the police as Libyan, as it happened coincidentally with the Libyan siege. Someone in the propaganda department couldn't resist the opportunity to state that " it had been claimed by the Angry Brigade" but added hastily that the police weren't sure it was so.
Was one of the sinister behind-the-scenes political agents so frustrated at not being able to blame "anarchists" for the Libyan Embassy episode - when a fully accredited State diplomat, sheltering behind legal internationally-recognised diplomatic immunity, looked out of the window, levelled his pistol, and killed a policewoman in cold blood - that the Scotland Yard press bureau had to engage in "dirty tricks"?
How the Angry Brigade episode frightened them if they are still bringing it up !